Executive Office

Reference: UNE-2022-00886

8 June 2022

Dear Major Groups and Stakeholders,

I have the pleasure of inviting you to nominate experts to participate in two open-ended meetings of the Seventh Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7). The first one will take place in a virtual[1] format from 19 to 22 September 2022. And, the second one will be held in a hybrid format in Nairobi, Kenya, from 17 to 20 October 2022.

As the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) flagship report on the state of the global environment, covering air, climate, water, land and biodiversity, GEO complements other assessments from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and other United Nations bodies by providing an authoritative and comprehensive assessment of the global environment. It demonstrates the related interactions and feedback loops between social, economic, and environmental drivers, and assesses how different policy options may contribute to a more environmentally sustainable world in the near to longer term.

The meeting scheduled for 19 to 22 September will approve the procedures for conducting the GEO-7 assessment and the supporting functions that the GEO programme will undertake to further strengthen the science-policy interface. Meanwhile, the meeting scheduled for 17 to 20 October will define the scope and theme of GEO-7 and approve the draft annotated outline.

These meetings respond to the specific requests from Member States in UNEA Resolution 5/3, entitled "Future of the Global Environment Outlook", which was adopted recently by the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly. The meetings will focus on the approvals requested in paragraphs 7, 10(a) and 10(g) of the resolution. A tentative timeline and schedule for future meetings is outlined in Annex II to this letter.

During the meetings, delegates will be given the opportunity to actively participate in person or online. The meetings will follow UNEA rules of procedures. The expected profile for experts attending these meetings is provided in Annex I to this letter.

UNEP will cover the cost of travel and accommodation for Major Group nominees who are selected by the Secretariat in accordance with applicable United Nations rules and regulations. Efforts will be made by the Secretariat to ensure geographic and gender balance in the selected nominees. Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation, making their own visa arrangements, and securing relevant health insurance.

Chairs of Major Groups are welcome to upload a nomination letter no later than **15 July 2022** detailing the name(s), title(s) and contact details of nominated participants to the nomination portal for the open-ended meetings. Where relevant, the nomination letter should also include information on funding requests for travel and accommodation.

My colleagues at the UNEP Secretariat (unep-science-geomeetings@un.org) stand ready to provide any additional information required.

Yours sincerely,

Inger Andersen
Executive Director

To: Major Groups and Stakeholders accredited to UNEP

[1] The virtual meeting will consist of three-hour sessions, held from 14h00 to 17h00 Nairobi time (GMT +3), over each of the four days

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Annex I: Expected profile of experts attending the procedures and supporting functions meeting for GEO-7

Nominated stakeholders should have experience or knowledge in the following areas:

- Science-policy interfaces intended to produce evidence for decision-making on the environment
- Integrated environmental assessment processes and procedures
- Supporting functions provided by science-policy interfaces to increase understanding of assessment findings with policymakers
- Procedures and processes used in international environmental decision-making fora.

Annex II: tentative timeline and meeting schedule for the GEO-7 process

